

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 02007 040829Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 USIA-15 /027 W

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R 040740Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2930

IMCLAS CANBERRA 2007

FOR CU.

EO 11652: NA.

TAGS: OTRA, SCUL.

SUBJ: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: METROPOLITAN OPERA COMPANY.

WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY A SYDNEY COMPANY CALLED AIR PROGRAMS INTERNATIONAL (CHAIRMAN W.J. HUCKER) THAT THEY HAVE BEEN IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR A YEAR WITH MESSRS. SAUNDERSON AND CHAPIN OF THE METROPOLITAN OPERA ABOUT A POSSIBLE TWO WEEK AUSTRALIA TOUR FOLLOWING THE MET'S JAPAN TOUR IN 1975, THAT "WE NOW HAVE AGREEMENT FOR THE TOUR" AND THAT "MET EXECUTIVES HAVE BEEN SENT TO AUSTRALIA TO SURVEY FACILITIES". IT IS KNOWN THAT THEATRES IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE ARE TENTATIVELY BOOKED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

WE RATHER SKEPTICAL OF PROPOSAL AS HUCKER AND HIS COMPANY LITTLE KNOWN HERE AND HAVE NO RECORD OF HAVING SUCCESSFULLY HANDLED PROJECTS OF SUCH MAGNITUDE. HOWEVER, WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SOUNDING OUT METROPOLITAN TO SEE IF PROPOSAL WARRANTS SERIOUSLY INVOLVEMENT THIS END.  
GREEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Subject:** CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: METROPOLITAN OPERA COMPANY. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY A SYDNEY COMPANY CALLED AIR PROGRAMS  
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